

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Please amend the abstract of the Disclosure as follows:

A press belt (~~11; 21; 31; 41; 51; 61; 71; 81~~) employed for pressurizing a zonal material, endlessly formed by an elastic material with the thickness progressively reduced from a central pressurizing portion (~~C₁; C₂; C₃; C₄; C₅; C₆; C₇~~) toward end pressurizing portions (~~A₁; A₁'; A₂; A₂'; A₃; A₃'; A₄; A₄'; A₅; A₅'; A₆; A₆'; A₇; A₇'~~). A shoe press comprising at least the aforementioned press belt, a pressure shoe (~~82~~) applying pressure to the aforementioned press belt and pressure regulation means (~~83~~) regulating the pressure of the pressure shoe. Thus, the pressure can be uniformly applied to a zonal material to be pressurized.

Abstract

A press belt employed for pressurizing a zonal material, endlessly formed by an elastic material with the thickness progressively reduced from a central pressurizing portion toward end pressurizing portions. A shoe press comprising at least the aforementioned press belt, a pressure shoe applying pressure to the aforementioned press belt and pressure regulation means regulating the pressure of the pressure shoe. Thus, the pressure can be uniformly applied to a zonal material to be pressurized.